

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 8, 2006. Claims 1-9 are pending.

Claims 1-2 and 6 stand rejected under Section 112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that the changes to these claims herein address and overcome any potential issue in this regard.

Claim 1 stands rejected under Section 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Matsuzaki. This Section 102(b) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 calls for a managing method for ordering a composition of a plurality of units to form a *composite apparatus which is a copying machine, a facsimile machine, a printing machine, or a composite machine comprising multiple of said machines, through an ordering apparatus* and for managing said ordered composite apparatus, the method comprising causing said ordering apparatus to receive unit information for *specifying units constituting a composite apparatus, which is the copying machine, the facsimile machine, the printing machine, or the composite machine comprising multiple of said machines*. Matsuzaki fails to disclose or suggest these features of claim 1. Matsuzaki relates to a system for a toy plane, and has nothing to do with ordering *a copying machine, a facsimile machine, a printing machine, or a composite machine comprising multiple of said machines, through an ordering apparatus* as recited in claim 1.

Moreover, Matsuzaki also fails to disclose or suggest (a) *causing said composite apparatus (which is the copying machine, the facsimile machine, the printing machine, or the composite machine comprising multiple of said machines) to inform the composite state information to said ordering apparatus*; and (b) *comparing the composite state information*

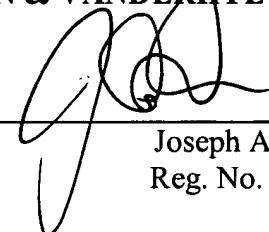
created by said ordering apparatus and the composite state information informed by said composite apparatus, as required by claim 1. Nothing in Matsuzaki discloses or suggest these features of claim 1.

Claims 2-9 also require, *inter alia*, that the composite apparatus is a copying machine, a facsimile machine, a printing machine, or a composite machine comprising multiple of said machines, through an ordering apparatus. Matsuzaki fails to disclose or suggest at least this aspect of claims 2-9.

It is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 

Joseph A. Rhoa
Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100